**Amendments to the Claims:**

Following is a complete listing of the claims pending in the application, as amended:

1. (Currently Amended) A method in a switch for controlling access to a network, the method comprising:

receiving from a network manager an indication that a node connected to the switch is authorized to transmit communications using a destination address;

receiving an indication that the node connected to the switch is registered with the network manager;

receiving from the node communications using the destination address;

filtering communications based on information contained in a header associated with the communications;

transmitting the received communications through the network; and

upon occurrence of a criterion indicating to not transmit communications of the node through the network, suppressing of the transmitting of communications using the destination address that are subsequently received from the node.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the criterion is receiving an indication from the network manager that the node is no longer authorized to transmit communications using the destination address.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the criterion is expiration of a timeout period.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 including starting the timeout period when the indication is received from the network manager.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3 including starting the timeout period when a communication using the destination address is received.

6. (Original) The method of claim 3 including re-starting the timeout period whenever a communication using the destination address is received.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the criterion is detecting a communications error in a transmission between the switch and the node.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the communications error is detected at a physical layer.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the criterion is disconnecting of the node from the switch.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the criterion is terminating the connection between the switch and the node.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the switch has multiple ports with the node being connected to one of the multiple ports.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the destination address is a virtual address.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the switch is Fibre Channel compatible.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the switch is ~~InfiniBand~~ compatible with an interconnect architecture.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the switch is an interconnect fabric module.

16. (Currently Amended) A routing device for controlling access to a network, comprising:

a component that receives an indication that a node connected to the routing device is authorized to transmit communications through the network; ~~and~~

a component that receives an indication that the node connected to the routing device is registered with the network;

a component that filters communications based on information contained in a header associated with the communications; and

a component that transmits through the network communications received from the node so long as a criterion indicating to not transmit such communications has not occurred.

17. (Currently Amended) The routing device of claim 16 wherein the criterion is receiving an indication from ~~the~~ a network manager that the node is no longer authorized to transmit communications through the network.

18. (Original) The routing device of claim 16 wherein the received indication specifies a destination identifier to which the node is authorized to transmit communications.

19. (Original) The routing device of claim 16 wherein the criterion is expiration of a timeout period.

20. (Currently Amended) The routing device of claim 19 including starting the timeout period when the indication is received from ~~the~~ a network manager.

21. (Original) The routing device of claim 19 including starting the timeout period when a communication is received from the node.

22. (Original) The routing device of claim 19 including re-starting the timeout period whenever a communication is received from the node.

23. (Original) The routing device of claim 16 wherein the criterion is detecting a communications error in a transmission between the routing device and the node.

24. (Original) The routing device of claim 23 wherein the communications error is detected at a physical layer.

25. (Original) The routing device of claim 16 wherein the criterion is disconnecting of the node from the routing device.

26. (Original) The routing device of claim 16 wherein the criterion is terminating the connection between the routing device and the node.

27. (Original) The routing device of claim 16 wherein the routing device is Fibre Channel compatible.

28. (Currently Amended) The routing device of claim 16 wherein the routing device is ~~InfiniBand~~ compatible with an interconnect architecture.

29. (Original) The routing device of claim 16 wherein the routing device is an interconnect fabric module.

30. (Original) The routing device of claim 16 wherein the routing device is a switch.

31. (Currently Amended) A routing device for controlling access to a network, comprising:

means for receiving an indication that a node connected to the routing device is authorized to transmit communications through the network; ~~and~~

means for receiving an indication that the node connected to the routing device is registered with the network;

means for filtering communications based on information contained in a header associated with the communications; and

means for transmitting through the network communications received from the node so long as there is no indication to not transmit such communications.

32. (Currently Amended) The routing device of claim 31 wherein the indication to not transmit is receiving an indication from ~~the~~ a network manager that the node is no longer authorized to transmit communications through the network.

33. (Original) The routing device of claim 31 wherein the received indication specifies a destination identifier to which the node is authorized to transmit communications.

34. (Original) The routing device of claim 31 wherein the indication to not transmit is expiration of a timeout period.

35. (Currently Amended) The routing device of claim 34 including means for starting the timeout period when the indication is received from ~~the~~ a network manager.

36. (Original) The routing device of claim 34 including means for starting the timeout period when a communication is received from the node.

37. (Original) The routing device of claim 36 wherein the timeout period is started when the received communication has a designated destination address.

38. (Original) The routing device of claim 34 including means for re-starting the timeout period whenever a communication is received from the node.

39. (Original) The routing device of claim 38 wherein the timeout period is re-started when the received communication has a designated destination address.

40. (Original) The routing device of claim 31 wherein the indication to not transmit is detecting a communications error in a transmission between the routing device and the node.

41. (Original) The routing device of claim 40 wherein the communications error is detected at a physical layer.

42. (Original) The routing device of claim 31 wherein the indication to not transmit is disconnecting of the node from the routing device.

43. (Original) The routing device of claim 31 wherein the indication to not transmit is terminating the connection between the routing device and the node.

44. (Original) The routing device of claim 31 wherein the routing device is Fibre Channel compatible.

45. (Currently Amended) The routing device of claim 31 wherein the routing device is ~~InfiniBand~~ compatible with an interconnect architecture.

46. (Original) The routing device of claim 31 wherein the routing device is an interconnect fabric module.